



File Code: 1920

Date: August 13, 2014

Dear Cibola National Forest User and Interested Public:

I would like to provide you with an update on the Cibola's forest plan revision effort. The Forest will be hosting a series of collaborative workshops in September 2014 (see schedule below) at locations around the mountain ranger districts of the Cibola. These upcoming workshops will focus on the initial identification and inventory of lands on the mountain ranger districts that are potentially suitable for wilderness consideration. The process of identification and inventory of potentially suitable lands is required by the Forest Service Planning Rule regulations for national forests undergoing forest plan revision. This inventory phase is intended to be transparent, and participation is open to all. A link to the initial, draft inventory maps will be made available via the Cibola's forest plan revision webpage (address below) coincident with the first wilderness inventory mapping workshop on September 9th.

Why is this important to you? Participating in these wilderness inventory workshops and/or using the Cibola's web-based collaborative mapping tool provides a great opportunity for you to review the draft inventory maps. You can provide your input regarding which, if any, lands shown on the draft inventory maps have or don't have potential for wilderness consideration and why. Or, you might identify lands suitable for other special area or research designation, and tell us why. At the workshops, you will learn why the Cibola is conducting this process now, what the process entails, what designated areas are, and how to use the Cibola's web-based collaborative mapping tool. You will be able to contribute your ideas on the maps at these workshops or do so from your home or place of work at a later time using the collaborative mapping tool or other, traditional means. Comments on the initial draft wilderness inventory map will be accepted through Friday, November 21, 2014.

Wilderness Inventory Collaborative Workshops Schedule - September 2014

Date and Time	Location	Community
Week of September 8, 2014		
Tuesday, September 9, 2014, 6-9 p.m.	UNM Continuing Education Bldg. North, Rooms B & C, 1634 University Blvd., NE, Albuquerque, NM	Sandia and Mountainair RDs, All Forest Users, Interested Parties, Public
Thursday, September 11, 2014, 6-8:30 p.m.	Grants High School, Performing Arts Auditorium, 500 Mountain Rd., Grants, NM	Mt. Taylor RDs, All Forest Users, Interested Parties, Public
Week of September 15, 2014		
Tuesday, September 16, 2014, 6-9 p.m.	Dr. Saul Community Bldg., 109 Roosevelt, Mountainair, NM	Mountainair and Sandia RDs, All Forest Users, Interested Parties, Public
Thursday, September 18, 2014, 6-9 p.m.	Socorro County Annex Bldg., Commission Room, 198 Neel Ave., Socorro, NM	Magdalena RD, All Forest Users, Interested Parties, Public



Please RSVP by August 29, 2014 and tell us which of the above workshops you plan on attending. This will allow us to plan for adequate accommodations. Call 505-346-3900 or email cibolamtnsplanrevision@fs.fed.us to RSVP. Likewise, ***if you need assistance with verbal translation or accessibility, please contact us (505-346-3900) and tell us which workshop(s) you will be attending and what your need is at least a week in advance*** so that we can plan accordingly.

Cibola staff will use your input captured from these workshops or your electronic or postal contributions to help identify which land area(s), if any, will be carried forth to the next phase of the process, evaluation. During the evaluation phase, there will be a second round of collaborative workshops (anticipated in January 2015) where you and Cibola staff will collaboratively evaluate the lands not eliminated during the inventory phase. Criteria for this evaluation will follow [Forest Service Handbook 1909.12, Chapter 70](http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/planningrule/home/?cid=stelprdb5403924), (<http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/planningrule/home/?cid=stelprdb5403924>).

Potentially suitable lands carried through the evaluation phase may be considered as forest plan alternatives in the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) analysis to be released later in 2015. Lands suggested for designation as special areas or research natural areas may also be considered in plan alternatives in the DEIS.

As always, You may also contact us with your comments or requests via:

- Email: cibolamtnsplanrevision@fs.fed.us or call 505-346-3889.
- Mail: Forest Supervisor, Cibola National Forest, 2113 Osuna Rd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87113.

We update our website regularly with information about upcoming planned events, documents, schedules, and agendas. Refer to http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/cibola/landmanagement/planning/?cid=fsbdev3_065627

We hope to see you at one or more of the above workshops. Thank you for your continuing interest in forest plan revision, and I look forward to working with you in this important effort.

Sincerely,

/s/Elaine B. Kohrman
ELAINE B. KOHRMAN
Forest Supervisor